

Swamp Foxes return home from deployment

Nearly 200 Airmen from the SCANG returned home Aug. 29, after completing their deployment to Joint Base Balad in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Airmen touched down at Eagle Aviation at the Columbia Metropolitan Airport and cleared customs prior to bussing to McEntire where they were reunited with



(Photo by SSgt. Jorge Intriago, 169th FW/PA)

their families. The Airmen stepped off the buses and into the waiting arms of loved ones, many who were waving American flags and home-made signs.

Molly Etheridge of Orangeburg said she was “excited and anxious” to see her son TSgt. Jeffrey Hardee, a munitions technician, return home from his 120-day deployment.

“The worst thing is not being able to pick up the phone and call him whenever I want,” Etheridge said while waiting on her son’s return.

This is the first major combat deployment for the 169th since 2003, when the unit deployed to OIF and flew more than 400 combat missions. Before that, the wing deployed to Qatar in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2002, flying more than 200 combat missions in the early days of the Afghanistan Campaign.

“It’s a very good day,” said Brig. Gen. Scott Williams, 169th Fighter Wing commander as the Airmen returned home. “We’re proud of

our Swamp Foxes coming home.”

Brig. Gen. Williams said he heard nothing but good things about the wing’s deployment where they provided air support for U.S. and Iraqi ground forces.

The wing detachment was assigned to the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing at Joint Base Balad, Iraq. While assigned to the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, the men and women of the 169th Fighter Wing generated and flew more than 800 combat air patrol missions over Iraq from May through August.

“It’s wonderful,” said MSgt. Allie Bacon about returning to South Carolina.

Bacon, a crew chief, said their mission was to “Keep them flying so the pilots could protect the guys on the ground.”

The unit sent F-16s, pilots, maintenance specialists and support personnel to Iraq for their first combat operation since becoming an “Active Associate” wing. This is an unprecedented agreement with the 20th Fighter Wing at Shaw embedding active duty Airmen with members from the SCANG. The 169th deployed for a full 120-day AEF making it the first Air National



(Photo by Staff Sgt. Tracci Dorgan, 169th FW/PA)

Guard Wing to deploy for an entire 120 days. Never in the history of the U.S. military has a Guard unit possessed the ability to fulfill this type of deployment.

The Swamp Foxes conducted combat operations on day one of Operation Desert Storm in 1991, day one of Iraqi Freedom



(Photo by SSgt. Jorge Intriago, 169th FW/PA)

in 2003, and there to escort the last Army combat forces out of Iraq into Kuwait on last day of Iraqi Freedom and the transition to Operation New Dawn. More McEntire personnel will return home in September and October.

In an e-mail to the wing Brig. Gen. Williams said, “I want to thank all of you who played a role to in-process our returning Airmen. A lot of time, effort, and thought went into making their in-processing as painless, user-friendly, and streamlined as possible. You were responsive, flexible, and able to make adjustments at the last minute to react to numerous last minute changes in redeployment plans.”

Since 2001, units and individual members of the SCANG have deployed numerous times to Southwest Asia – including Iraq, Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kuwait.

(Story by TSgt. Stephen Hudson, 169th FW/PA)

Commander's Corner



by
**Maj. Sharilyn Askins 169th
FW Maintenance Operations
Flight Commander**



When I joined the Air Force in 1986 and traveled to Lackland AFB for basic training, from the time I stepped off the bus until graduation day, each and every day was already planned for me. I was told when to get up, what to eat, what to wear, where to go, and when I could put my exhausted head back on my pillow each night. Communication was at its peak! They told me everything I needed to know and I didn't even have to ask. While serving on active duty I was told when and where to show up for roll call, when I needed to be at the clinic for shots and physicals, when and where I needed to report for training classes, and what I would be doing during duty hours. This was also a great set-up. Everything was communicated to me on a daily basis as to what I was going to be doing each duty day.

As a traditional guardsman with the

SCANG, I am not at the base each day so I'm not involved in the day-to-day activities, fire alarms or updates like my active associate or full-time technician counterparts. This has made my military life a little more challenging. Communication seems like such a simple concept and everyone thinks it just comes naturally but, believe it or not, you have to work at it to make it happen. Communication is so vital, not only to the traditional guardsman but to the active associate and the full-time technician, because as you all know, we are all one unit now working to attain the same goal, which is the sustained success of the SCANG. But without good communication, that road to success will be a never-ending trail of confusion, misunderstandings, and misconceptions. It is imperative we keep our communication lines wide open and flowing with information up and down the

chain of command. I have impressed upon the folks in the Maintenance Operations Flight that at any time of day or night on any day of the week, if there is something you need to discuss with me, I am available by phone, email, fax, or carrier pigeon! The advancements in technology today have made it virtually impossible to NOT be able to communicate in some form or fashion.

Communication is a two way street and it only works when both parties are willing to make the effort. Although I believe it is the responsibility of the full-time supervisor or co-worker to keep in good communication with the traditional guardsmen, I also believe it is the traditional guardsman's responsibility to keep in good communication with their supervisor, co-workers, and commander. We can't help you unless you contact us to let us know you need help. Always remember, your first sergeant, your supervisor, and your commander are here to help at any time. We are only a phone call away. I remember when I was working in weapons loading back in 2000 and was moving from Columbia to Charleston. I was out of a job, my oldest daughter was one year old at the time, and my husband's job was not starting for a couple of weeks. It was at that time, I decided to reach out to my supervisor here at McEntire to see if there was any chance I could come out and work some days until the time I was able to find full-time employment. McEntire came through for me and I was able to pull enough days until I landed my current job in Charleston. I was so grateful and all it took was a phone call!

McEntire has worked with me during the past 20 years not only to accommodate my civilian employer and my family needs, but also to keep me on track in order to have a successful military career. This has all been made possible through communication. If at any time you have a question, concern, gripe, or perhaps a praise, please don't hesitate to COMMUNICATE it – that's the key to success!



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Official Mission Statement of the 169th Fighter Wing: To provide a trained and equipped citizen fighting force that exceeds the capability of any Guard, Reserve, or active-duty Air Force unit in the protection and defense of state and nation; to maintain the capability for worldwide deployment of combat-ready assets to meet contingency and general war requirements; to employ conventional munitions in close-air-support, interdiction, offensive counter-air, defensive counter attack, suppression of enemy air defenses and special capability AGM-65 Maverick missiles; to provide world-class units that are recognized as being the best of the best when directed by the governor to preserve and protect the life, property, peace and public safety of the citizens of South Carolina.

Submission of SCANG News material: Articles and photography are welcome and should be submitted prior to the deadline (see below). E-mail submissions to 169FW.PA.SCANGNews@ang.af.mil.

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Deadline for the Nov. issue is Oct. 3.



Chief's Concerns

Chief Master Sergeant Robert Davis, 169th SFS

As I prepare to write this article, I begin to think about the past, present, and future of the USAF, but more importantly, the present and future of South Carolina Air National Guard. I begin to think about the great leaders we have been blessed to have at McEntire Joint National Guard Base. We have had leaders that care about the future of McEntire and understand that each of them is just preparing the way for others to come behind them to accomplish the overall mission of the wing. Our leaders continue to develop and motivate our airmen to ensure that they are successful during their career. Some ways we develop our airmen is by initiating new programs and organizations, having unity, and planning.

I am excited about the NCO enhancement seminar which will be held at McCrady Training Center during October drill. This will give our staff sergeants and technical sergeants an opportunity to gain additional knowledge in the area of leadership. Our leaders have decided that they are willing to send these Airmen to this seminar in order for them to receive the information necessary to be successful within the military. These individuals will come back to our unit better prepared to lead the individuals within their

section. This is one of the ways our leaders are investing in non-commissioned officers to accomplish the mission here at McEntire.

Secondly, as we prepare our Airmen for the present and future, we must be aware that unity is one of the key qualities for any organization to be successful. Sometimes we must sacrifice in order to build unity within an organization. Unity rarely just happens. It has to be sought and taught. A wise leader does all he or she can to build with those who contribute to unity while eliminating the causes of disunity for the team. In order for McEntire to continue to grow, develop, and continue to be the forerunner, we must have unity. It is a prerequisite to sustained success.

Lastly, leaders plan, from the very inception of their leadership, for the time when they will no longer be around. You must ensure that the best possible replacement is being trained and prepared to step in when you can no longer lead. This is simple and logical, however sometime it is not practiced. We must begin to focus narrowly on those few who would be most capable of leadership when you are no longer there. This is the only way we will continue to have a rich future at McEntire.



Recruiting & Retention

Military Personnel Summary

Strength

Officers:

Authorized	143
Assigned	133
Percent Manned	93.0%

Enlisted:

Authorized	1198
Assigned	1246
Percent Manned	104.0%

Total:

Authorized	1341
Assigned	1379
Percent Manned	102.8%

(as of Sept, 14, 2010)

Recruiting/Retention

Gains:

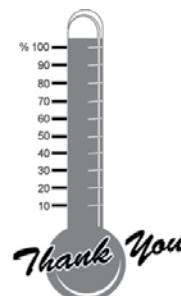
	<u>MONTH</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Prior	1	66
Non-Prior	0	99
Total	1	165

Losses:

ETS	0	14
Discharge	4	24
Medical	0	1
Resignation	0	7
Retirement	1	27
Transfer	0	25
Other	0	1
Total	5	99

Net Gain/Loss	-4	+66
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Recruiting Progress We're at 102.8 percent!



We must maintain 100% strength through 2010!
Recruit & Retain!

There are many positions open for immediate recruiting...

Munitions, Weapons, Crew Chiefs, Life Support, CE, Security Forces and more



For Your Information...

EPR/ OPRs records copy

ANG members applying for a Technician or Statutory Tour position or just need a copy of your current or past Enlisted/Officer Performance Records (EPR/OPRs)? The information is just a click away! You can use virtual Personnel Center-Guard and Reserve (vPC-GR) to request a copy be sent to you from the Total Force Service Center-Denver or use the Personnel Record Display Application (PRDA) view and/or print a copy. You can also view your evaluation data to include reporting official information online by accessing virtual Military Personnel Flight (vMPF). You can access vPC-GR, vMPF and PRDA from the AF Portal, www.my.af.mil, located under the Top Portal Links section.

Evaluations, evaluation's

ANG members, is it time to draft, sign, or submit an evaluation and you cannot attend the scheduled Unit Training Assembly this month? Did you know that you can keep the process moving using online services? In virtual Personnel Center- Guard and Reserve (vPC-GR) you can write, sign, and submit evaluations, including LOEs. You can also request a copy of previous EPR/OPR forms. If needed, you can view your evaluation data to include reporting official information in virtual Military Personnel Flight (vMPF). You can access vPC-GR and vMPF from the AF Portal, www.my.af.mil, under the Top Portal Links section.

Free childcare available

Free childcare for children 6 weeks to 12 years is available at Fort Jackson's Child Development Center for all Guard and active duty members for posted drill dates. The CDC is located in base housing next to the Fort Jackson Commissary. Hours of operation are 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information, contact Terry DeLille, (803) 647-8089 or email her at carolyn.delille@ang.af.mil.

Golf anyone?

The SCANG will host a Golf Tournament at the Beech Creek Golf Club in Sumter, S.C. on November 15, 2010. Payment of \$35.00 is due by Nov. 9, 2010 to participate. Registration will begin at 1030 the day of the tournament, with a 1200 Shotgun start. Food will be provided by Big T's Barbeque. Please give money to Allen Stewart, Jason

Horne, Dwayne Ayers or Stuart Amos, and make checks payable to GAGGO. Payment can also be mailed to: SCANG GAGGO, 1325 South Carolina Road, Suite 4, Eastover, SC 29044.

Fall Festival

Family Readiness invites everyone to attend the Fall Festival Oct. 30. 5p.m. to 9p.m. Come to enjoy hamburgers, hot dogs, and goodies. There will be hay rides, pony rides, a costume contest, crafts, face painting and much more. For more information or to help, call Terry at 647-8089.

Commander's Action Line

Have a question, concern or problem? Leave a message on the Commander's Action Line. If requested, a member of the Commander's staff will respond with a resolution. Call 647-8899.

AF dress and appearance

The Air Force launched a new public website this month to help educate and inform Airmen about dress and appearance standards and policies. While the new site will be a valuable resource, Airmen should continue to work through their chain of command for clarification and guidance on Air Force dress and appearance standards and policies. Having this information on a public website ensures uniform changes and updates are available to the field in a timely manner. Rather than that waiting for updates to Air Force Instruction 36-2903, which is being revised. For more information, visit the Air Force Dress and Appearance public website at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dress/index.asp>.

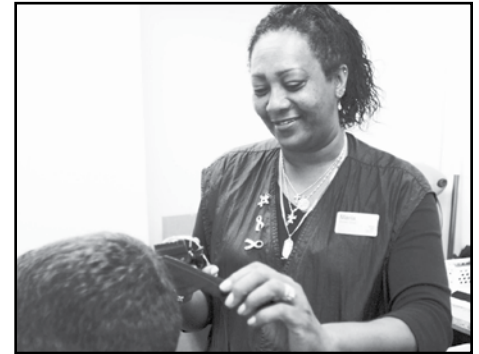
Yellow Ribbon Program

The SCANG Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program will provide a 30/60 Day reintegration event on November 13-14 in Greenville. Airmen (enlisted and officers) that deployed in the AEF will be required to attend this two day event. Lodging, lunch and childcare will be provided to all attendees with pre-registration. Registration deadline is Oct. 10, and registration forms can be obtained and returned to Melissa Mitrik at Melissa.Mitrik.ctr@ang.af.mil. Forms may be dropped off at the Fighter Wing Headquarters office, Suite 5 (next to auditorium) or at the Chaplain's Office.

Barbershop now open

The barbershop at McEntire opened Aug. 27 in the Base Canteen. Manager and barber, Marie Moore will work Wednesday and Friday 9a.m. – 5p.m.

Moore has been a barber since 1987 and has worked at Shaw for four years. She plans to hire someone that will help her at McEntire. Hair cuts will cost between \$7 and \$10.



(Photo by Staff Sgt. Tracci Dorgan, 169th FW/PA)

Marie Moore cuts hair of one of her first customers at the new barbershop at the McEntire JNG Base.

Operation "Warm Winter"

Everyone enjoys coming inside from a cold winter day. Sadly, some are not as fortunate to have shelter during the harsh winter months. In the spirit of sharing, Swamp Fox E5-E6 NCO council will be holding a winter coat drive for the homeless during the month of October. Donation boxes will be located in the canteen. For information on donating, or to volunteer, call the POC's for operation "Warm Winter" SSgt Robyn Brackett (647-8452) and SSgt Kendrick Pack (647-8528)

Blood Drive

The next blood drive will be held in the canteen on Oct. 3

The goal is to get 90 pints
Lets make it happen !!!

Lovejoy assumes command of new Comptroller Flight



Lt. Col. Ben Lovejoy (right) accepts the 169th Comptroller Flight guidon from Brig. Gen. Scott Williams during the activation and assumption of command ceremony held in the Wing auditorium during drill, Sept. 11. Lovejoy, who has been a member of the SCANG since September 2001, became the first commander for the newly designated 169th Comptroller Flight. Brig. Gen. Williams, 169th Fighter Wing commander, presided over the unit's activation and Lovejoy's assumption of command. He commended Lovejoy for leading his team to this historic moment and challenged him to continue "taking care of our Swamp Foxes." The 169th Comptroller Flight is a stand-alone unit at McEntire.

(Photo by SSgt. Jorge Intriago, 169th FW/PA)

NGB offers social media guidelines for Guardsmen

National Guard members need to know that even though a new DoD policy authorizes them to use many of the social media and other Web 2.0 platforms available on a non-classified government computer, there are consequences for misuse of them.

"Access will vary among the states, but DoD has granted access to Facebook, Twitter, Flickr and YouTube as long as users don't compromise operational security, participate in illegal activities or try to open prohibited Web sites," said Jack Harrison, the director of public affairs for the National Guard Bureau.

He added there are unofficial and official internet posts. Unofficial internet posts are not initiated by any part of the National Guard or reviewed within any official National Guard approval process. Official internet posts involve content released in an official capacity by a National Guard public affairs office. They are, however, encouraged to responsibly engage in unofficial internet posts about the National Guard. Posting internal documents or information that the National Guard has not officially released to the public is prohibited.

Do not release National Guard e-mail addresses, telephone numbers or fax numbers not in the base phone directory.

"The National Guard is involved in various missions around the world every day, and Guard members are in the best position to share factually the National Guard's story," Harrison said.

When assigned to a federal mission, Guard members must comply with Army or Air Force guidelines for use of social media and are subject to disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

As with other forms of communication, Guard members must also adhere to

federal laws, National Guard regulations and governing policies when making unofficial internet posts. They are personally responsible for all content that they publish on social networking sites, blogs or other Websites.

"They must also be mindful of the content not related to the National Guard that they post, since the lines between a Guard member's personal and professional life are often blurred," Harrison said.

He added that many social media sites have policies that give them ownership of all content and information posted or stored on their sites.

When expressing personal opinions, Guard members should make it clear that they are speaking for themselves and not on behalf of the National Guard, Harrison said.

They are also encouraged to use a disclaimer such as: "The postings on this site are my own and don't represent the National Guard's positions or opinions."

As with other forms of personal public engagement, Guard members must avoid offensive and inappropriate behavior bringing discredit upon themselves and the National Guard. This includes posting any defamatory, libelous, obscene, abusive, threatening, racially or ethnically hateful or otherwise offensive or illegal information or material.

When posting political content, Guard members must adhere to policy in Department of Defense Directive 1344.10. They should also not imply National Guard endorsement of any opinions, products or causes other than those already officially endorsed by the National Guard.

Guard members should not release personal identifiable information, such as social security number, home address or

driver's license number that could be used to distinguish their individual identity or that of another Guardsman. By piecing together information provided on different Websites, criminals can use information to impersonate Guard members and steal passwords.

Guard members should use privacy settings on social networking sites so posted personal information and photos can be viewed only by their "friends." They should also recognize that social network "friends" and "followers" could affect determinations in background investigations for security clearances.

Members should not post information that would infringe upon the privacy, proprietary or personal rights of others or use any words, logos or other marks that would infringe upon the trademark, service mark, certification mark, or other intellectual property rights of the owners of such marks without the permission of the owners.

The National Guard, Army or Air Force logo and other symbols may be used in unofficial posts as long as the symbols are used in a manner that does not bring discredit upon the Guard, result in personal financial gain or give the impression of official or implied endorsement.

Finally, Guard members should review their accounts daily for possible use or changes by unauthorized users and should install and maintain current anti-virus and anti-spyware software on their personal computers.

For answers to social media questions, Guard members should contact their local public affairs office or the National Guard social media office at socialmedia@ng.army.mil.

(Story by Lt. Col. Ellen Krenke, NGB/PA)

169th CES firefighters train Iraqi forces

As U.S. Forces across Iraq transition from combat operations to advising and assisting, the importance of proficiency training and certification of the Iraqi air force increases significantly.

Advisors from the Iraq Training and Advisory mission-Air Force and firefighters from the 447th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron at Sather AB conducted compliance training on Aug. 5 and 9 with members of the Iraqi air force firefighters.

"We try to make the training as realistic as possible so that if there is an incident or accident out here on the flight line, they can respond appropriately," said Maj. John Creighton, ITAM-AF logistics. "What we're looking for is the response time; how long it takes them to respond from the flight line for the emergency."

Iraqi firefighters demonstrated their ability to rescue aircrew members during a simulated fire and their ability to put out an aircraft fire during "live fire" exercises.

The training that all the firefighters -- Iraq Special Operations Forces, New Al Muthana and Baghdad International Airport -- have put in is paying off.

"The Iraqi air force is making tremendous progress," said Brig. Gen. Scott Hanson, ITAM-AF director and 321st Air Expeditionary Wing commander. "They increase their capacity every day. Today's fire fighting exercise was one more example of the steps that I see taking place every day to grow capabilities for the nation of Iraq."

Now that the Iraqi air force firefighters have shown they are capable of putting out fires and rescuing fellow airmen, it doesn't mean they can rest on their laurels and wait for an emergency. Being a firefighter means constant training to stay proficient.

"They are headed in the right direction," said SMSgt. Stephen Turner, 447th ECES fire emergency services chief. "It will be up to them and their efforts to continue to train and communicate with each other.

Firefighter's duties are continuously evolving. The more they train together, the better they will be able to handle anything they are presented with."

Turner, who is deployed from the South Carolina Air National Guard, explained that firefighting operations are scheduled to be turned over to a contracted company by the end of August but the agencies will continue to talk and train with each other.

"One day Sather will be turned back over to the Iraqi's," he said. "It is nice to know that they can rely on each other for mutual aid if such a situation required them to work together."

As US Forces continue the Responsible Drawdown of Forces and the Air Force footprint shrinks to approximately 7,000 Airmen in Iraq, the training proves to be another step toward the Iraqi air force being able to sustain itself.

"It's important, I think, as we move ahead to understand how our role may change and how this training and advise and assist role continues to play a critical, if not perhaps, the most important role in Iraq for the U.S. forces," Hanson said.

The general also talked about the importance of continued growth and proficiency training for the Iraqi firefighters.

"We do that in our United States military," he said. "We field forces that are ready to do the mission. But it requires continual training. Regular training to keep your proficiency, to gain experience and to mature your skills and to develop instructors so that the next generation of Iraqi air force firefighters will be taught by Iraqis themselves and they will have an enduring capability to guard the air field and protect lives."

The firefighter's mindset is universal. It crosses borders, oceans and cultural boundaries and their approach to training remains the same with a goal to protect property and save lives.



(U.S. Air Force photo by SrA. Perry Aston)

A 447th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter waits for a fire to get bigger before attempting to extinguish it, during live burn training, Aug. 9, 2010, at Baghdad International Airport, Iraq. Firefighters from the 447th ECES, BIAP and Iraqi air force, frequently train in structural firefighting, to improve their skills.

"We have enjoyed the interaction with our Iraqi firefighters," SMSgt. Turner said. "We didn't know what to expect from them when we arrived but we quickly found out that firefighters everywhere are pretty much the same. We're comfortable running into a building on fire when everyone else is running out of it. We train to get better because lives are on the line."

(Story by Staff Sgt. Sanjay Allen, Air Component Coordination Element-Iraq Public Affairs)

Fire Prevention Week 2010 Oct. 9-15

Smoke Alarms: A Sound You Can Live By - the first line of defense, check, clean, and change the battery twice a year.

Safety tips for the winter season... Store all household and garden chemicals according to the directions on the label. Use care when heating with a space heater. Check all holiday lighting prior to using.

Post 9/11: This isn't your father's National Guard

Since the attacks of 9/11, the National Guard has had to make some of the most dramatic changes in its 373-year history, a senior National Guard leader said in a recent interview.

"We have evolved and we have changed," said Maj. Gen. William H. Etter, the acting director of domestic operations at the National Guard Bureau. "In the past, the guard was a strategic reserve, and just like the name, it was held in reserve, waiting for the big one."

"Like any change, it was kind of insidious and started out small, so we may not have recognized it," he said.

The "big one" that would change the dynamic of the Guard would come in early 2003, when Operation Iraqi Freedom began after multinational forces, led by U.S. forces, invaded Iraq.

"What happened there was such a large demand for (American military) that the guard became a part of going overseas, and we're very proud of that and it's something that we don't want to stop doing," General Etter said.

About three-quarters of the National Guard members have deployed once, and 25 percent have deployed more than twice.

"The guard feels like it's a battle-tested, hardened organization now, with many combat veterans," he said. "With that kind of experience level, it just makes for an extremely professional and capable (organization)."

The changes have been hard, and like with any change, there has been some turbulence along the way, but the guard members are proud of the changes that have been made, General Etter added.

"This has been a nation at war, and we've fought side-by-side with all of the other forces, and I don't think there's any looking back."

Because of the Cold War, the guard has often been referred to as a force of "weekend warriors," which is a title that no longer applies, as it gains more respect among active-duty forces.

"I know that as we work together as a team, and we see nothing other than being accepted as an equal partner on the team during the

missions that we're on," he said. "Cultures take a long time to shift, but you've got a lot of combat veterans in the guard right now, and they know what they're doing."

When it comes to the future of the guard, General Etter said he is very confident of what the guard is capable of and where it is headed.

"Where we are right now, we feel like we can continue indefinitely," he said. "Obviously nothing in the world stays the same, and if something were to happen to call us someplace else, it'd be a different story. But at the end of the day, we're going to do what we need to do."

Finally, General Etter said the guard is a great value for the country.

"We're accessible, performing a dual mission, and we're proud to serve the governors, the president and the American people," he said. "We'll be there."

(Story by Sgt. Darron Salzer, National Guard Bureau)

Security Forces completes heavy weapons training

Members of the 169th Security Forces Squadron spent two days training with different weapons in the Air Force's inventory.

Staff Sgt. Keith Kendrick, a combat arms instructor at McEntire, said the training is both an annual requirement and qualification for both Combat Arms instructors and Security Forces members. The weapons used during the training included the M240 Bravo, M203 grenade launcher, and M249.

After one day of classroom training held at the squadron, the Airmen travelled to the Bastogne Range at nearby Fort Jackson for hands on training and live firing exercises.

The training is important for the Airmen to maintain combat readiness and be prepared for deployment. This type of training is done Air Force wide and since security forces

Airmen may deploy with members of other units, all of them need to be familiar with the different weapons the Air Force uses.

(Photos by SSgt. Jorge Intriago, 169th FW/PA)



SCANG photographer serves in Bagram

SCANG Photographer, MSgt. Marvin Preston is currently serving at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan providing Weapon System Video (WSV) to coalition air forces supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

WSV provides coalition air forces, and other military and political leaders with a visual record of the aircraft's weapon delivery, targeting and accuracy. At Bagram, the WSV technician is fully involved in the day-to-day air operation; 24-hours a day, seven days a week. As aircraft return to Bagram after providing close air support a mission report is completed and passed on to Intel, who notifies the WSV technician. Within six hours of engine shutdown, the WSV footage must be accurately "clipped" with classification, mission and target slides added.

"I spent the bulk of my 10 years of active duty as a photojournalist assigned to 1st Combat Camera Squadron at Charleston AFB. I deployed in support of all combat operations since Operation Just Cause (the invasion of Panama) and this is easily the most interesting deployment I've ever been involved with," said Preston.

Prior to arriving at Bagram for his three month deployment, Preston attended a two-week Combat Airman Skills Course at Ft. Dix, N.J. The course focused primarily on "outside the wire" scenarios and heavily on combat/fire team movement, mounted vehicle/convoy operations and combat first aid.

"Combat Airmen Skills Training was very good and far more in-



(Courtesy photo)

MSgt. Marvin Preston prepares for training during the Combat Airmen Skills Training course prior to going to Bagram to perform his Weapon System Video mission.

depth and physically demanding than I imaged it would be," Preston said in an e-mail from his office in Afghanistan. "In retrospect it makes sense to have it that way. It's very realistic right down to the native speaking 'actors' in the training areas at Ft. Dix."

While at Bagram, Preston said he works a 12 to 14 hour shift to process all of the video delivered to their shop. Preston is the only member of the 169th currently deployed to Bagram, the other WSV technician who works with him is a traditional Airman from another Air National Guard unit. The Air National Guard has the WSV mission for the entire Air Force.

"There's no time for mistakes or do-over's," Preston said. "WSV footage is used to determine the effectiveness of air strikes and to plan future missions."

Preston added that WSV is crucial to the war planners at the Combined Air Operations Center to know how effective the strikes on the enemy are or if those strikes need to be made again. "The Joint Terminal Attack Controllers are enlisted Airmen assigned to Army units and direct combat aircraft onto enemy targets. They contact us frequently requesting specific WSV footage to plan or debrief missions," says Preston, who is scheduled to return home in late September or early October.

(Story by TSgt. Stephen Hudson, 169th FW/PA)

NCO Academy eligibility changes in effect

The new AFI 36-2301 dated July 16, 2010 allows TSgts with two years TIG (Time in Grade) to enroll into course 14 (Senior NCO Academy Distance Learning). TSgt.'s who have completed course 00009 or the NCOA in-residence course and has two years TIG, are eligible to enroll into course 14.

Air Force Instruction 36-2301, establishing policy and responsibility for developmental education, has undergone substantial revision.

In addition to language governing attendance, eligibility, selection and removal criteria, the revised instruction provides procedures for inclusion of international officers in professional military education programs, said Col. Jeff White, the service's force development directorate learning division chief.

Two key changes implemented in this instruction include the requirement for enlisted members to have a current passing fitness score to attend PME and the creation of primary developmental education, a new PME category that incorporates Squadron Officer School and SOS's equivalent, the Inter-American Air Force Academy course.

"The revision of AFI 36-2301 not only marks a great step in the right direction for the Air Force's developmental education programs, but more importantly, the revised instruction provides clearly defined guidance for both the field and those pursuing developmental

education opportunities," White said.

The revision encompasses many areas, including the addition of guidance for civilians, wing commander and senior rater responsibilities, the definition and importance of diversity as it relates to developmental education, and the importance of completing opportunities through distance learning programs.

Air University education programs and the advanced studies group are included in the revised instruction, which also establishes eligibility requirements, course prerequisites, selection and declination procedures, and information regarding deferments and waivers.

Developmental education includes joint PME, international PME, resident and distance learning programs. Also included are Air Force-sponsored advanced academic degree programs, Air Force Institute of Technology, Naval Post-graduate School, National Defense Intelligence College, Advanced Study of Air Mobility, the Air Force Intern Program and the Air Force Fellows Program for total force Airmen.

Descriptions of the various development education opportunities are included in the instruction.

Please contact your unit training manager or additional duty unit training manager to request enrollment.

(Story by Cheryl Q. Medlin, Force Development Directorate)

Get up, get out, and get motivated

Exercise is a part of military tradition, so why is it that so many of us have trouble getting motivated? There are several ways to get up and out the door, and there are fellow guard members out there to help. Here on McEntire there are people who belong to different teams and those teams need more players. The excuse that most people use for not joining teams is that they don't know about them, until now.

Staff Sgt. Thomas Arthur leads the Swamp Fox Basketball team that plays on Ft. Jackson. Arthur said this season the team has several new members because many of last season's players are on the AEF deployment. There are nine people on the team and they are getting better every game.

"Being a new team is difficult, learning how to work together would make the team better," added Arthur. "They always need to keep up their cardio and athletic ability to be stronger players."

Basketball games are Tuesday and Thursday every week at Fort Jackson. If anyone is interested in playing or watching a game, call Arthur for times at 647-8489.

"McEntire used to have a soccer team and a softball team," said Arthur. "It would be nice to see these sports started again or even to start a kickball team."

Arthur also mentioned that Fort Jackson offers team and individual sports if anyone is looking for a team or sport to join. Just call him for information.

Team 1636 is a multi-sport team that 2nd Lt. Holly DiGiovine, Army Guard military intelligence officer and Team 1636 coach and Sgt. Roberto DiGiovine, combat camera for the Army Guard and Team 1636 coach, have started. Team 1636 is for all Air and Army Guard members to join. Lt. DiGiovine said the team offers training advice and moral support for anyone who wants to join.

Many team members are runners, cyclists, and swimmers, but there is also a combatives group.

"Roby and I feel very fortunate that we enjoy an active lifestyle and that we are able to make it a priority on a regular basis. It brings balance, challenges and accomplishment to our lives. One

of our missions is to make it approachable and attainable to anyone interested," said Lt. DiGiovine.

Lt. Col. Paul Laymon, 169th Fighter Wing Anti-Terrorism Officer and Team 1636 member said, "Everyone can be a member of Team 1636, the philosophy behind the team is all about fitness. Holly helps with training and nutrition needs to anyone who asks."

"There are different workout groups that meet in different locations for the convenience of all people that want to participate in training," Laymon added. "We're trying to get more Swamp Foxes involved in the team."

"Our goal is to connect guard athletes so they can feel part of something bigger than themselves as most of the sports are individual efforts," said Lt. DiGiovine. "Seeing Team 1636 athletes participate in events in the community promotes a positive image of the National Guard. This is as important for changing public opinion as it is for changing how Guardsmen and women view themselves."

"Most individuals don't give themselves credit for what they are capable of accomplishing. As coaches and mentors, Roby and I understand the mental game that accompanies being physically fit. I believe the difference between the fit and unfit is that the fit are just better at overcoming the excuses or roadblocks in their mind. When presented with the same obstacle, the positive, motivated individual will determine a proactive approach to deal with it and move forward. Our challenge, therefore, is to help those who doubt themselves to overcome this insecurity and find small obtainable for



them to start with."

Recently a few members of the team met in Greenville at Furman University for the July 3, Red White and Blue Shoes 5K. Lt. DiGiovine said in order for the Team to accomplish its goals, members must get together; they have to run, suffer, sweat and celebrate together.

"An important piece of making an active lifestyle a concrete part of your life is to share it with others; to see that you aren't alone," added Lt. DiGiovine. (Story by Staff Sgt. Tracci Dorgan, 169th FW/PA)

Personnel services now available online

How would you want to avoid waiting in line at your Military Personnel office? Did you know that you can perform many personnel actions from your home using a variety of online services? For ANG members, the virtual Personnel Center-Guard and Reserve (vPC-GR), the virtual Military Personnel Flight (vMPF), and the Personnel Record Display Application (PRDA) are all online services and available for your use 24/7. Some of the applications available in vPC-GR include, initiate and process decoration nominations; request corrections or changes to your federal awards and decorations; view your duty history and request a correction or change to your duty history; submit a voluntary separation discharge/resignation or retirement application; write, sign, and submit evaluation's including LOE's and request a copy of your EPR/OPR forms. Applications for your use in vMPF include view/print a visual display of your federal awards and decorations; view your data verification brief,

access your record review and update some of the data; as well as update your emergency data information. The Personnel Record Display Application (PRDA) allows you to view and print forms from your official military personnel record.

You can access vPC-GR, vMPF and PRDA from the AF Portal, www.my.af.mil, under the Top Portal Links section. For an all inclusive view of what services are available, please refer to the Online Personnel Services Brochure. A copy can be obtained from your Military Personnel office or you can view/print a copy from the Air Force Portal, Life and Career Tab, ANG Page The Total Force Service Center is available for customer support and provides processing for online services. Contact the Total Force Service Center (TFSC) at 1-800-525-0102 for assistance.

(Content provided by MSgt. Paul Caldwell, 169th MSF)



Our September Breakfast meeting really had a good turn out. We had around 65 retirees, attendance-wise, and we had some folks that haven't come to a breakfast in a while, it was good to see them. Our one first timer was Nelson Boles, from CE. I will say this, the CE guys are really networking and beating the bushes for their retired guys to show up. We had one guest, who also doubled as our Speaker, MSgt. Chris Smoak. Chris just got back from Balad and he briefed us on all the goings on over there. Chris did an excellent job, Terry Wingard "recruited" him to talk to us. Chris's job on this tour was being one of the maintenance expeditors. So we saw our Swamp Fox legacy at work. Chris also stated, he now is one of the "old guys" the young troops come to for counsel.

McEntire History: I am still hearing from some folks who retired back in 1997, and

they are Col. Frank C. (Joe) Khare, Jr., and Williard (Will) W. Nash was listed as retiring as a MSgt., however, he has said he retired as a SMSgt. If there are other 97 retirees out there, and I did not mention your name please let me know. OK, lets get on with the '98 retirees, we have; Lt. Col. Hattie Harmon, Maj. Joseph G. Weston, SMSgt.'s Thomas Halcum, Bettie Joyner, Francis Norris, and Joseph Pugh, Jr. MSgt.'s Woodrow G. Hemming, Jr., Daniel L. Gunter, William Cloaninger, Freddie Lorick and Nathan R. Lindler. TSgt.'s Blaine Roberts and Carroll Allen, also SSgt. Patricia J. Cousins.

Some firsts for SCANG for the month of October, the first aircraft was assigned to SCANG and it was an AT-6 Texan way back in 1946. In the year 1950 was the time of extended active duty for the Korean Conflict. In 1974, the first A-7 arrived. 1977 was

our first participation by SCANG in Red Flag, we all know where it was held, if you guessed Nellis AFB you are correct.

Next month we are scheduled to have the State Command Chief, Mark Morrell to speak to us. Please note we will be moved for our October meeting at the NCO Club to another room only for this month, so go to the Liberty Room. It will be the same time and place, the Fort Jackson NCO Club beginning at 8:30 a.m. Please come early so you can talk with your old friends and buddies. As a suggestion, when coming to the Fort, based on feedback from our attendees during September stay away from Gate 2 (Forest Drive) and utilize either Gate 1 (Fort Jackson Blvd.), or if you can use Gate 5 (Leesburg Road) gate, which is what I use, no problem thus far. So keep this in mind when making the trek October 5.

SCANG Recruiters 1-800-432-2754 187-SWAMPFOX www.goang.com

McEntire JNGB

MSgt. Brad Gibson

Recruiting & Retention
Superintendent
(803) 647-8414
BB: (803) 315-7419

MSgt. Ceomara Timmons

Retention Office Manager
Palace Chase/Palace Front
and Guard Transfers
(803) 647-8211

Shaw AFB

TSgt. Steve David

(803) 895-4790
BB: (803) 608-3098

Charleston AFB

SSgt. James Rodriguez

(803) 647-8085
BB: (803) 391-6348

Village at Sandhills

TSgt. Brian Bailes

(803) 462-0455
BB: (803) 315-7482

TSgt. Topeka Blackwell

(803) 462-0455
BB: (803) 351-0939

TSgt. Chris Sewell

803-462-0455
BB: (803) 206-2499

SCANG begins ANG mentoring program

Come one, come all. We are starting a mentoring program in the SCANG! The Air National Guard Mentoring Program provides a source of career information and guidance, professional development, and the understanding of our core values of integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do. Mentoring whether formal or informal, has been an integral part of our leader development culture in the ANG. The ANG is dependent on the development of competent and confident leaders for it to accomplish its mission. The development process consists of the equally important pillars: institutional training, operational assignments and self develop-

ment. These pillars support the framework: communication, supervision, teaching, job proficiency, decision making, planning, use of available technologies and systems and professional ethics.

In the ANG Mentoring Program there are mentors and associates. A mentor is a counselor, coach, motivator and role model and is a person who has a sincere desire to enhance the success of others. An associate is a member participating in the mentoring program and has the capability and desire to excel. We are beginning the process of pairing mentors and associates together to further develop our airmen. We are looking for members who want to mentor Airmen

and junior NCO's. We are also looking for Airmen and junior NCO's who want to be mentored by SNCO's. Mentors and associates may be in the same or different squadrons. If you would like to participate in this program at McEntire or to find out more information about it, please email me at kevin.thomas.2@ang.af.mil. Active Associates are part of SCANG and are encourage to participate in this program. Commanders, First Sergeants and Chief's, we need your support to ensure the success of this program.

(Story by SMSgt. Kevin S. Thomas, 169th FW/PA)

Enlistments

TSgt. Lashell Bell, 169th OSF
 TSgt. Nick Mountcastle, 169th MXS
 SSgt. Frank Freeman, 169th FW
 SSgt. Christopher Wyatt, 169th MXS
 SrA. Barry Ballew, 169th CES
 A1C. Gregory Powell, 169th MXS
 A1C. Brian Waddell, 169th MXS

Officer Accessions

Maj. Leslie Zyzdamartin, 169th OG
 Capt. Misa Therese Cadua, 169th MDG

Enlisted Promotions

Chief Master Sergeant

Joseph Brunson, JFHQ
 Martin Philpott, 169th CES

Senior Master Sergeant

John Vansickle, 169th MXS

Technical Sergeant

Celestine Ardis, 169th CPTF
 Michael Bryant, 169th SFS
 Joseph Hostler, 169th CES
 Patrick Shannon, 169th SFS
 Jack Spencer, 169th CES
 Neil Young, 169th SFS

Staff Sergeant

William Blackwell, 169th SFS
 Ryan Fodness, 169th SFS
 Keith Moore, 169th MXS
 Joshua Steele, 169th AMXS
 Chad Westmoreland, 169th AMXS

Senior Airman

Patrick Cooley, 169th AMXS
 Shelton Davis, 169th AMXS
 Lyla Rayer, 169th AMXS

Officer Promotions

Lieutenant Colonel

Stephen Allen, 169th OSF
 Allen Mattox, 157th FS

Retirements

SMSgt. Terri Lever
 169th FW, 34+ years

 MSgt. Toni Lee-Harris
 169th MXS, 20+ Years

 TSgt. Robert Eddy
 169th FW, 21+ Years

ANG Officer Intermediate and Senior Developmental Education for 2011-2012

The Air National Guard Airman Learning Branch (NGB/A1DL) is now accepting applications for Officer Intermediate and Senior Developmental Education (IDE/SDE) for academic year (AY) 2011-2012.

Professional Military Education (PME) is a vital element in developing and preparing ANG members for leadership roles. Adjutants General and commanders are expected to nominate only those officers who demonstrate leadership skills, the potential to serve in senior leader positions, and those who will strategically benefit future missions of the Air National Guard.

This is a highly competitive process – application package content and quality is the key to selection. The applicant is ultimately responsible for compiling the package and ensuring its completeness. Communication and coordination through your Force Support Squadron Force Development Supervisors (FSS/FSD formerly known as BETMs) is essential as they serve as the base-level POC for officer PME program administration to NGB/A1DL.

APPLICATION SUSPENSE DATE:

Completed applications should be routed to NGB/A1DL NLT Friday October 22, 2010.

Internet Info Updates

Check us out on the internet!!
 Did you know that you can be our friend on Facebook?

Active SCANG members, check out the My Org. link once logged into the Air Force Portal.

Base Training

Airman Leadership School
 (class start dates -- five-week duration)
 (56 seats for ANG members)

2010

TBA

Noncommissioned Officers Academy
 (class start dates -- six-week duration)
 (75 seats for ANG members)

PME Schedule

MCGHEE TYSON ALS

10 Jan 11 - 10 Feb 11
 21 Feb 11 - 24 Mar 11
 11 Apr 11 - 12 May 11
 27 Jun 11 - 28 Jul 11
 15 Aug 11 - 15 Sep 11
 27 Sep 11 - 28 Oct 11

MCGHEE TYSON NCOA

4 Jan - 10 Feb 11
 21 Feb 11 - 30 Mar 11
 11 Apr 11 - 18 May 11
 27 Jun 11 - 3 Aug 11
 15 Aug 11 - 21 Sep 11
 27 Sep 11 - 3 Nov 11

TESTING SCHEDULE

Tuesdays, 1 p.m.

Drill Sundays, 12:30 p.m.

Report for testing no later than 15 minutes before the test. Members testing on CDCs required for upgrade training must bring their AFIADL 9 course card with the following items documented:

Date review training began
 Date due completion
 Date review training ended
 Supervisor's signature
 Trainee's signature

Members without the card and required information are not allowed to test. For more information, contact a unit training manager.



SCANG Schedule

February 2011 (UTA)

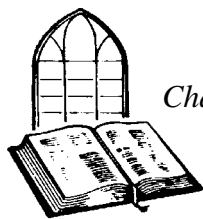
Unit Compliance Inspection

REFLECTIONS

I have been back two months now after a six month deployment on Guam. I saw everyday what a beautiful island it is. Our creator's detailed handiwork was everywhere. It showed how much he cares about His creation. When we look at this time of year in S.C. we see a beautiful display of changing colors on trees that also speak of God's majestic creation and seasons.

As spectacular the fall season is, and other times of the year; you are more special to the LORD than any part of this earth physical landscape. The bible says in Psalms 139, "you created my inmost being, you knit me together in my mothers womb; I am fearfully and wonderfully made, your works are wonderful; I know that full well. How precious to me are your thoughts, o God, how vast is the sum of them, were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand."

You are loved and uniquely designed by a personal God that makes you more beautiful then anything around you.



Chaplain (Lt. Col.) David H. Sturgeon

Worship Schedule Saturday

Maintenance (hangar) & SFS after roll call

Sunday

8 - 8:30 a.m. - "Chapel Now" (WG HQ auditorium)

10:30-10:55 a.m. - "Chapel Next" (Dining Facility)

1:30-2 p.m. - Catholic Mass

in the LRS conference room (Father Travis)

What's for Lunch? Saturday

Spaghetti with meatballs, Shrimp Alfredo
Cauliflower, Green Peas, Garlic Bread

Snack Line

Grilled Ham or Turkey with Cheese
Chips

Sunday

Cornish Hen, Veal with Mushroom sauce
Rice and Gravy, Zucchini, Black-eyed Peas

Snack Line

Fish Sandwich, Hush Puppies, Cole Slaw
Fries

The Dining Facility is open 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Everyone using the facility must present a valid ID card.

Top Achievers

Outstanding Academic Achievement

TSgt. Jason Horne

169th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Logistics Plans Apprentice Course

McEntire will be hosting the

Annual Awards Ceremony

during the December drill.

The ceremony will honor SCANG
retiree's for their many years of dedicated
service.

Other awards will also be presented.

Details will be announced in November.

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Eastover, SC 29044-5010

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